

AN EXCITING SESSION OF CITY COUNCIL

At Which It Was Decided to Re-count Refund Election Votes in the Sixth Ward.

DEMOCRATS WERE VERY CUTE

In Their Attempt to Work in a Democratic Successor to Mr. Gaus in the Sixth Ward.

BUT THE REPUBLICANS AWAKE

To the Situation Just in Time to Break the Quorum and Prevent the Election.

Last night's meeting of the city council was the most exciting held in several months. The most important matter up was the canvassing of the vote in the special refund election of last Saturday. This occurred in joint session, and, at the instance of Mr. Fox, it was decided to have a re-count of the votes in the Sixth ward, and this work was entrusted to a special committee of eight, which may meet this week and begin its work. The allegation is that the judges of the Sixth ward precinct adjourned to a saloon after having completed the count, and did other things highly irregular before depositing the ballot box with the city clerk late Saturday night. Mr. John Waterhouse's remark that he hoped the re-count would show the refund had won, met with applause.

Another exciting feature of the meeting was the attempt of the Democrats to run in a Democratic successor to Frank Gaus as second branch councilman from the Sixth ward, but though the Republicans were caught napping at the start, they soon showed they were thoroughly awake, and speedily broke the quorum, thus making it impossible to put the Democratic choice, Henry Balzer, through.

Another feature in which great interest was shown, was the action taken on the ordinance of the National Telephone Company, which came up in the second branch on its second reading. After some filibustering the ordinance was postponed for two weeks. In the meantime, it is said, the ordinances of these other companies will have been acted upon by the committee on ordinances and reported to council.

City Clerk's Report.
The city clerk made the following report of expenditures and balances:

DEPARTMENTS.	Appropriations.	Expenditures.	Balance.
Board of public works.....	\$ 5,465.25	\$ 2,213.88	\$ 3,251.37
Fire department.....	9,230.00	2,267.88	6,962.12
Health department.....	2,075.00	1,060.52	1,014.48
Markets.....	148.75	204.32	245.40
Police.....	7,220.00	2,417.18	4,802.82
City prison.....	1,175.00	382.94	792.06
Scales and weighing.....	200.00	43.45	156.55
Real estate.....	625.00	110.60	514.40
Cemeteries.....	250.00	25.35	224.65
Salaries.....	3,070.00	971.00	2,100.00
Contingent expenses.....	10,827.28	9,728.99	1,100.29
City water.....	20,025.95	9,261.74	10,764.21
City gas.....	24,870.85	19,016.31	5,854.54
Collection of taxes.....	750.00	750.00	0.00
Totals.....	\$56,222.78	\$43,938.26	\$12,284.52

James K. Hall, collector, paid to A. H. Forgy, receiver, the following amounts to February 25: 50-cent levy, \$5,027.70; 10-cent levy, \$941.48.

National Telephone Company.

The ordinance of the National Telephone Company was brought up on its second reading. Mr. Korn moved to refer back to the city solicitor. Mr. R. T. Chew brought in two amendments. Mr. Caldwell moved amendments to the Korn motion to the effect, first, that the system be completed in two years; second, that the bond be increased to \$25,000; third, that a sale or combination with any other company be prohibited. Mr. Miller favored reference to the solicitor in order to give council the opportunity to look into the merits of the offer made by rival companies. Mr. Healy could see no reason for reference to the solicitor. A motion by Mr. Kindelberger to hear the National Company's representatives was objected to by Mr. Korn, which of course, killed it. The motion to refer back to the city solicitor was defeated, 13 to 13, as follows:

Ayes—Beckett, Caldwell, Fair, Fitzsimmons, Kalbitzer, Killeen, Korn, Long, Marschner, Megraff, Miller, Weisgerber, Maxwell; total, 13.

Nays—Bradbury, Chew, Fox, Healy, Kindelberger, Kurtz, Maurer, McMechen, Radcliffe, Ritter, Scheehle, Watson, Zeigler; total, 13.

The next motion was to postpone consideration for two weeks. The motion was declared carried. The decision was appealed from, and the chair was sustained on the following vote:

Ayes—Caldwell, Beckett, Fair, Fitzsimmons, Fox, Kalbitzer, Killeen, Korn, Long, Marschner, Megraff, Miller, McMechen, Scheehle, Weisgerber; total, 15.

Nays—Bradbury, Chew, Healy, Kindelberger, Kurtz, Maurer, Radcliffe, Ritter, Watson, Zeigler; total, 10.

Bill Objected To.

When the bill for printing 10,000 copies of the refund ordinance came up, there was objection to its payment from some of the anti-refunders, who, however, were beaten, 20 to 5.

The Election.

The official vote in the refund election was reported to have been as follows:

For ratification.....2,947
For rejection.....2,229

Total vote.....5,176

Mr. Fox—Object to the Sixth ward.

I think there has been some illegal transactions.

The Chair—That can be taken up later in joint session, if council desires.

Council authorized the payment of the election judges and clerks.

Appropriation Ordinance.

A supplemental or emergency appropriation ordinance, appropriating an amount equal to one-sixth of the revenues of 1899, was passed without opposition.

Wanted a Sewer.

McColloch street residents, between Thirty-seventh and Thirty-eighth streets, prayed for a creek sewer. Referred to the finance committee on motion of Mr. Marschner.

Bills Ordered Paid.

The following bills were ordered paid: Elections committee.....\$331.90
Markets committee.....21.70
Police committee.....315.00

Total.....\$667.60

Recount in the Sixth.

At 8:45 p. m. council went into joint session to canvass the refund election vote. There were present thirteen members of the first branch, and twenty-five of the second branch. Mayor Sweeney and President Maxwell presided.

Through a misunderstanding, said the mayor, the report on the vote in the refund election had been acted upon separately by both branches; the purpose of the joint session was to act properly on the report. The report was read by Clerk O'Brien.

Mr. Fox moved for a recount in the Sixth ward, this to be done by a committee of eight. He understood the ballot box was taken illegally to various places. He desired to know from the city solicitor whether this was not illegal. Other wards reported in from one to two hours. This ward came in very late.

Mr. Chew seconded the Fox motion. Mr. Waterhouse moved an amendment, that the vote of the entire city be recounted.

A motion to lay on the table was made and declared carried by the mayor.

Then there was a motion to reconsider the vote tabling the matter, and it prevailed, 21 to 14.

Then the Waterhouse amendment for a recount of the entire vote, was brought up.

Mr. Miller could not see any reasonable grounds on which to re-count any but the votes in the Sixth ward. There can be no slur cast on the Eighth ward, for instance.

Mr. Caldwell could not see why the Sixth ward should be picked upon to the exclusion of the other wards.

Mr. Fox did not cast any slurs at the Sixth ward, but he objected to methods alleged to have been employed by the judges in the Sixth ward. There should have been no tarrying on the road.

The mayor cautioned the speaker to confine himself to the question.

Mr. Fox—Well, I have nothing more to say—only the sacredness of the ballot.

Mr. Waterhouse said he did not desire to cast a slur on any ward, and he hoped a re-count of all wards would show that the refund had carried. Applause greeted this statement of the man from the Fifth.

The Waterhouse motion was then brought to a vote and declared carried. A call for a division came half a second too late.

The following re-count committee was named:

First branch—Waterhouse, List, Stroebel, Baird.

Second branch—Bloomfield, Fair, Healy and Miller.

Messrs. Marschner and Kalbitzer were named from the Eighth ward in turn, but they declining to serve, Mr. Miller was named.

Not Quite Cute Enough.

After the joint session had dissolved, some of the second branch members left, thinking that only the formality of adjourning remained. Just here, the Democrats were cute enough to count noses and ascertain that they had a bare majority present in the branch, and they at once came to the conclusion that the opportunity was ripe to elect a Democratic successor to Councilman Frank Gaus, of the Sixth ward, who is now a resident of the Fourth ward. As soon as the matter was brought up, the Republicans realized that something must be done quickly, else a Democrat would slide in. As motion followed motion in an effort to delay the issue, Republican members began to slide out in an effort to break the quorum, and the scene was one of great excitement. Officer McGuigan, the doorkeeper, made strenuous efforts to keep the councilmen in hand, but they quirked out under his very eyes, until at last when the vote was taken on the Democratic nominee the only Republican councilman present was President Maxwell. As the eleven Democrats and the Republican presiding officer were not a quorum of the branch, Mr. Maxwell declared no election, and the branch adjourned.

The proceedings in detail, were as follows: Mr. Caldwell moved that the election of a successor to Mr. Gaus be proceeded with. Mr. Chew moved to postpone, but the motion was lost. Then a motion to adjourn was made and lost. The motion for adjournment was repeated several times and repeatedly lost. The point was made that Mr. Gaus had not resigned. Mr. Caldwell placed Mr. Henry Balzer in nomination. He also moved that Gaus' seat be declared vacant. The motion prevailed. By this time all the Republicans except President Maxwell had made their escape, and when the vote on Balzer—the only candidate presented—was taken, it developed that there were but thirteen members of the branch present, two short of a quorum.

"Mr. Balzer has received twelve votes," said Clerk O'Brien.

"No quorum being present that does not elect," said the chair.

Then half a minute later the chair brought the proceedings to a close with the remark, "We stand adjourned without a quorum."

After adjournment, some of the Democrats showed a disposition to criticize

President Maxwell for allowing the Republican members of the branch to break the quorum. As a matter of fact, Mr. Maxwell instructed the sergeant stationed at the door to prevent councilmen from leaving the hall, and there his duty ended. Mr. Maxwell did nothing in the chair that will not meet the hearty commendation of citizens in general and Republicans in particular. When the Democrats attempted to elect their man in Gaus' place by stealth, they laid themselves open to any legitimate advantage which the Republicans could secure through Republican occupancy of the chair, and their criticisms of Mr. Maxwell are only the expression of their disappointment, which is doubtless especially bitter from the fact that they had counted on victory but a minute before crushing defeat overwhelmed them. Democrats who are kicking loudest were among the most enthusiastic admirers of Mr. Frank Gaus seven years ago, when that gentleman showed how good a partisan he could be while occupying the second branch chair.

BRIEF MENTIONINGS.

Events in and About the City Given in a Nutshell.

Lent is ushered in this morning.

Matinee at the Grand this afternoon.

Grand to-night — Peruch - Belden company in repertoire.

Judge Melvin will hold a special term of circuit court on Friday.

Quotations on fish are advancing, owing to the Lenten demand.

Congressman Frer is hopeful, notwithstanding reverses in Wirt and Cabell counties.

Bellaire's council will auction off an issue of \$40,000 municipal bonds this afternoon at 2 o'clock.

The Loan Exhibition is too rare an opportunity to be missed by any one. It continues this week.

George Hanson was committed to jail for ten days by Squire Fitzpatrick yesterday, on a charge of drunkenness.

The Kennores gave a very successful hop at their quarters on the South Side last evening. Prof. Nolte furnished the music for the occasion.

Mullen Division, A. O. H., will give a literary and musical entertainment at St. Mary's hall, on the South Side, on the evening of March 15.

A "Dewey Day" committee defends the admiral from certain unfavorable comment passed upon him in Wheeling agent his recent visit.

The Uniform Rank bodies of the Knights of Pythias held installation ceremonies at the Pythian Castle, South Side, to-night. It bids fair to be a brilliant affair.

To-morrow evening, at the Wesley M. E. church, a Democratic medal contest will take place. There are several participants, and the programme will be varied with musical selections.

The Degree of Pocahontas, I. O. R. M., gave an enjoyable masquerade and supper at Pythian Castle last evening. Prizes were awarded the best dressed lady and the most comically dressed gentleman.

The weather moderated considerably yesterday. At 7 a. m., the coldest hour of the day, the thermometer showed 4 degrees above. At 3 p. m. 27 degrees had been reached. Still further advances in the mercurial tube are predicted for to-day. Snow is expected to-day.

Friday evening, at the Wesley M. E. church, the Epworth League will render a very interesting programme of literary numbers and music, and after which a class of eighteen new members will be received into full membership in the League, and a reception in their honor will be given.

The hearing of Henry and Della Custer, on a charge of cruelty to Mrs. Sophia Entlinger, mother of the former, will come up before Squire Fitzpatrick to-day. The Custers are alleged to have attempted to place Mrs. Entlinger, who is seventy-two years old, in an insane asylum, and previously cruelly treated her.

Clarence Stephens, of New Martinsville, who left home last Saturday and came to Wheeling, is missing, and his wife made information of this fact at police headquarters yesterday. The missing man is rather tall, smooth face, wore light hat and light overcoat. No trace had been found of Stephens last night.

At a Second ward resort early yesterday morning, Edward Spinner was arrested, on complaint of William Jackson, and he will have a hearing to-day before Squire Dunning, on a charge of assault and battery. Both parties are colored. When Spinner was arrested he had a long knife in his possession.

Last evening Battery A., Uniformed Rank Knights of Pythias, held a regular meeting, and transacted business of minor importance. This evening, at Pythian Castle, will occur the annual ceremonies incident to the installation of officers, and the inspection of all the Pythian companies in the city. A sumptuous supper will be served after the completion of the ceremonies.

Yesterday, at the court house, Squire Greer offered some valuable pieces of real estate for sale. They are all owned by Mary Moffat, and the sale was adjourned until a later date. The property occupied by the Day Nursery was bid up to \$6,500. Lot No. 21, on Twelfth street, was bid up to \$2,000, and Lots Nos. 22, on the same street, and 19, on Twelfth street, were offered, with no bidders. The building at No. 274 Eoff street was bid up to \$1,800.

Lent Ushered In.

To-day is Ash Wednesday, the opening of Lent, and will be the occasion of services in the Episcopal and Catholic churches. At St. Matthew's P. E.

Can't Stand Cold

Many children can't stand cold weather. The sharp winds pierce them, and the keen air hurts them. They have cold after cold, lose flesh, and spring-time finds them thin and delicate.

Scott's Emulsion will make such boys and girls hearty and strong. The body is better nourished, and they are better protected. The blood becomes richer, and that makes them warmer.

See and try it, all druggists. SCOTT & BOWNE, Chemists, New York.

the rector, Rev. D. W. Howard, will conduct Holy Communion at 10:30 a. m., and in the evening he is to preach on "Way to Salvation Keep Lent." At St. Joseph's Cathedral there will be masses in the morning and vespers in the evening.

Society.

Ballroom toilettes and "jacks" and "queens" were laid aside with the close of yesterday's festivities in observance of the penitential season which begins on its forty-day run this morning. The pre-lenten functions were rushed to the limit and the devotees of society had their hands full yesterday. The largest event was the Cotillon given last night at Arion hall under the direction of Prof. George W. Delbrugge, whose classes, the Married People's, and the Cotillon Club, embracing the younger set, combined toward making it a brilliant success, which it was, indeed. Included in the 100 couples who gave way to the terpsichorean pastime were many visitors from out of the city. The music was furnished by Meister's full orchestra, and the collation was served shortly before midnight. Arion hall was beautifully decorated for the occasion.

The North Main street Euchre Club held its weekly session yesterday afternoon at the home of Mrs. James Matthews, who dispensed the hospitalities in a charming manner.

A progressive euchre party will be given at the Loan Exhibition to-morrow evening, for which handsome prizes will be awarded. Twenty-five tables will be provided, and participation is open to all who have general admission tickets.

The Misses Nichols entertained a congenial crowd of friends at their home, at the corner of Twenty-seventh and Eoff streets, last evening. Cards and dancing were the diversions of the evening, and an appetizing luncheon was served at midnight.

Miss Gena Waterhouse entertained the Twentieth Century Girls yesterday afternoon at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Waterhouse, on South Chapline street. The prize winners in the card contests were Miss Lydia Good and Miss Bowman, of Uniontown, who is the guest of Mrs. Frank H. Crockett. The lone hand prize went to Miss Johnston, of Canton, who is the guest of Miss Bess Rogers.

The Spinners were charmingly entertained at the Severn yesterday afternoon by Mrs. Harry F. Stallman and Miss Bessie Barclay.

The following announcement of the approaching marriage of Miss Narcissa Patterson, of New York, who has visited in Wheeling frequently, has been received:

Mrs. Sarah F. Patterson announces the marriage of her daughter, Narcissa, to

Mr. John Marshall Billups, Junior, on Thursday, February the fifteenth, next, at one hundred and nine hundred, at One Hundred and Eighty-seven Madison Avenue, New York City.

The approaching marriage of Mr. William H. Keogh, Wheeling manager for Bradstreet's, is announced in the following, received yesterday:

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Wilder Hall announce the marriage of their daughter, Irene Steadman, to

Mr. William Howard Keogh, Wednesday, March the fourteenth, Nineteen Hundred, Allegheny City, Pa.

After June fifteenth, Pleasant Valley, Wheeling.

TWENTY-SIXTH ANNIVERSARY

Of La Belle Lodge, A. O. U. W., Celebrated Last Evening.

At Mozart hall, on the South Side, last night, the La Belle lodge, A. O. U. W., celebrated its twenty-sixth anniversary before a large crowd. An excellent programme of literary and musical selections was rendered, and Mr. Frank Nesbitt delivered an address that was listened to attentively. After the rendition of the programme the floor was cleared for dancing and the terpsichorean festivities were kept up until an early hour this morning.

Mr. F. N. Flood had charge of the ceremonies. To him much credit is due for the success of the celebration. Luncheon was served during the evening in the dining hall. The following was the programme:

Piano Solo.....Miss Sarah Gompers
Address.....Frank Nesbitt
Graphophone Selection.
Recitation.....Miss Rhea Steele
Solo.....William Clemens
Recitation.....Miss Kate Ritter
Selection.....Wesley Male Quartette
Graphophone Selection.
Solo.....Miss Anna Meyer
Recitation.....Miss Mary Jay
Duet.....Wm. Detwiler and Flora Wittinger
Solo.....Miss Jennie Rose
Recitation.....E. Steinhauer
Selection.....Wesley Male Quartette
Graphophone Selection.

AMUSEMENTS.

"Jack and the Beanstalk" was the spectacular extravaganza attraction at the Opera House last evening, and attracted a very large and well pleased audience. The cast is strong, the scenery magnificent, the specialties excellent, and altogether a most pleasing performance is given. The dancing was especially good and encores were frequent.

"Two Orphans" Tonight.

Two large audiences greeted the Peruch-Beldin company at the Grand yesterday, and the favorable impression created by the performance on the opening night was accentuated. The company has hitherto played only in the south, where it has broken many house records. The comedy and drama bills were excellent, and the specialties between acts were most pleasing. This afternoon the company will present for the first time here "The Prince in Rags," and to-night "The Two Orphans." The management promises a production of "The Two Orphans" only excelled by that of Kate Claxton.

Committee Meets.

Last evening at Martin's Ferry the Democratic city committee held a meeting at W. B. Francis' office, and called a meeting at Scheehle's hall for next Saturday evening to nominate city officers. The several wards will caucus separately and nominate their ward officers at the same time and place.

McFADDEN'S.

You'll Get Left

If you don't come at once—this special shoe sale will only last a few days—then these wonderful shoe bargains will be a thing of the past.

Men's \$2.50 Water Proof Shoes for.....\$1.95
Men's \$2.50 Box Calf Shoes for.....\$1.95
Men's \$3.00 Vici Kid Shoes for.....\$1.98
Men's \$3.00 Winter Tan Shoes for.....\$1.98
Men's \$3.00 Patent Leather Shoes for.....\$1.98

McFADDEN'S, 1316 to 1322 Market St.

BONDS TO BE AUCTIONED.

Bellaire Receives Bids, But They Were All Unsatisfactory.

Last night, at a meeting of the council at Bellaire, bids were received for the issue of \$40,000 in bonds, with which to build the new city building. Fifteen bids were received, and the highest premium offered was \$1,400. The council was not impressed favorably with the offers of the bankers, and decided to auction off the bonds at 2 o'clock this afternoon. One banker's representative, that of Messrs. Seasongood & Meyer, offers to start the bidding at a premium of \$1,600, and put up a check for \$500 to bind the transaction. The bid of the First National Bank of Bellaire was \$1,200 premium, and that of the First National Bank of Columbus \$1,400 premium.

THE RIVER.

Improperly constructed bridge piers have cost the Ohio river interests \$745,606.95. This amount is based on the report of losses as furnished the United States government by the boat owners sustaining losses. The Baltimore & Ohio railroad bridge at Bellaire heads the list, \$161,156 being charged up against it, and \$97,605 against the Fairbank railroad bridge at Steubenville. The losses for last year have not been computed. The figures given include the total losses to and including 1898. These facts were brought out at the meeting of the United States engineers in Cincinnati last week by J. Frank Tilley, of the Pittsburgh coal exchange.

Captain Grant Marsh, in discussing old-time steamboating, said that on February 21, 1869, the steamer Cora left St. Louis for Fort Benton, on the Upper Missouri, in charge of Captain W. R. Massey, taking a big load of freight at 15 cents a pound and passengers at \$300 each in gold.

A telegram received from Cairo says that the ice gorge back of that place in the Mississippi is still solid, and the City of St. Louis is laid up thirteen miles back of Cairo.

The harbor towboat Relief, which was burned Sunday night at Cincinnati, will be hauled out on the ways and repaired in six weeks or two months. Her boilers are uninjured and it is possible that her machinery is not badly damaged. The engine room and cabin, as far forward as the pilot house, were destroyed. The Volunteer has been ordered out of winter quarters in the mouth of the Big Kanawha, to Cincinnati, to take the place of the Relief.

Another effort will be made to bulkhead and raise the sunken White Collar steamer W. E. Nesbit as soon as the river falls to 14 feet. In the meantime all efforts will be made to float the steamer Stanley, which belongs to the same line.

The river is full of ice that is getting quite heavy.

The marks at 6 p. m. Tuesday showed 11 feet 4 inches and falling. Weather cloudy and not so cold. Thermometer 4 above at 7 a. m., and 27 above at 7 p. m.

Mate Maxingo, of the Leroy, whose leg was broken at Clarington, is doing very well at the Wheeling hospital, and his complete recovery is assured within six weeks.

This week, just below Charleston, the Greenwood ran through herself, smashing a cylinder. She was taken to Charleston, where repairs are being made. She will lose a trip through the accident.

The local packets are harbored as follows: Ben Hur at Pittsburgh; Kanawha, at Pittsburgh; H. K. Bedford, at Parkersburg; Eloise, at Wheeling; Jewel, at Matamoras; T. M. Bayne, at Steubenville; Ruth, at Marietta; Leroy, at Clarington; and Greenwood at Charleston.

The packets are all at the bank with the exception of the Cincinnati and Pittsburgh liners. The Keystone State cleared Wheeling for Cincinnati yesterday at 3 a. m., and at 4 p. m. the Queen City passed up for Pittsburgh. She will be here for Cincinnati to-morrow at 8 a. m. The Virginia left Cincinnati for Wheeling and Pittsburgh last evening.

Pittsburgh River News.

PITTSBURGH, Feb. 27.—Navigation on the three rivers is nearly suspended on account of the heavy ice. The big Cincinnati packets are about the only boats moving on the upper Ohio river. The boats running in the pools of the Monongahela river have had such a rough time that most of them have been forced to the bank. At Lock No. 3 yesterday the towboat Hawk was in the lock for eighteen hours, as she could not get out on account of the ice that floated in with the boat when she was locked. The Robert Jenkins, which left the fourth pool at 11 o'clock Saturday night with four flats of coal, did not arrive at Pittsburgh until 1 o'clock this morning.

The mills of Pittsburgh are supplied chiefly with river coal, and the suspension of navigation may affect some of them, but most of the large concerns have a big supply of coal on hand. The suspension is not expected to last over forty-eight hours, as warmer weather is predicted. The rivers are not closed at any place as yet, and this is regarded as a most fortunate condition. The high stage of water keeps the ice moving. It does not often happen that ice floats out of the Monongahela river when the weather is so cold.

It is reported that the towboat Enterprise sunk a coalboat at the foot of Six Mile Island, and that the John Moran sunk one at Howard's shipyards, at Jeffersonville, Ind. No details have been received, but it is supposed that the boats were lost by reason of the heavy floating ice. The boats on the lower Ohio are said to be moving, notwithstanding the cold weather and ice.

River Telegrams.

PITTSBURGH—River 7.5 feet and falling. Clear and cold.

PARKERSBURG—Ohio river 13 feet 10 inches and falling. Weather cloudy. Fifteen above zero. River ice locking. Keystone State, Little Kanawha is frozen. No locals.

MORGANTOWN—River closed. Weather cloudy and cold.

WARREN—River 3 feet 9 inches. Weather clear and moderating.

BROWNVILLE—River closed.

STUBENVILLE—River 9 feet 6 inches and falling. Weather clear and cold. Heavy ice running.